

Commissioners:  
JULIA L. JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN  
J. TERRY DEASON  
SUSAN F. CLARK  
DIANE K. KIESLING  
JOE GARCIA

State of Florida



ORIGINAL  
FILE COPY  
Blanca S. Bayó, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting  
(904) 413-6770

## Public Service Commission

DATE: July 17, 1997  
TO: Parties of Record  
FROM: Blanca S. Bayó, Director BSB/KK  
Division of Records and Reporting  
RE: Docket No. 960451-WS - Application for rate increase in Duval, Nassau, and St. Johns Counties by United Water Florida, Inc.

This is to inform you that the Commission has reported the following communication in the above-referenced docket.

- Letter from Senator Betty S. Holzendorf dated July 2, 1997 together with an attached letter from Mr. Robert G. Jacob dated May 28, 1997.

The letters, copies of which are attached, are being made a part of the record in these proceedings. Pursuant to Section 350.042, F.S. any party who desires to respond to an ex parte communication may do so. The response must be received by the Commission within 10 days after receiving notice that the ex parte communication has been placed on the record. Please mail your response to the Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870.

BSB/cp

### Attachments

ACK —cc: Rob Vandiver/w/letter  
AFA \_\_\_\_\_  
APP \_\_\_\_\_  
CAF \_\_\_\_\_  
CMU \_\_\_\_\_  
CTR \_\_\_\_\_  
EAG \_\_\_\_\_  
LEG \_\_\_\_\_  
LIN \_\_\_\_\_  
OPC \_\_\_\_\_  
RCH \_\_\_\_\_  
SEC 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
WAS \_\_\_\_\_  
OTH \_\_\_\_\_

GUNTER BUILDING • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD • TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399-0870  
"An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer"

DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE  
07210 JUL 17 97

FFSC-REC/DOCS/REPORTING



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

97-0211 III 10

**SENATOR BETTY S. HOLZENDORF**  
2nd District

**COMMITTEES:**  
Banking and Insurance,  
Vice Chairman  
Commerce and Economic Opportunities  
Education  
Regulated Industries  
Ways and Means,  
Sub. B (Education)

**JOINT COMMITTEE:**  
Joint Legislative Management Committee

July 2, 1997

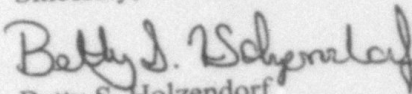
Ms. Julia L. Johnson, Chairperson  
Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Enclosed is a letter from Mr. Robert G. Jacob, concerning the Water and Sewer Rate Increase approved for United Water Florida. Please provide the necessary information requested by Mr. Jacob concerning this matter along with notification to this office that this matter is closed.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Betty S. Holzendorf  
Senator, District 2

REPLY TO:  
 816 N. Ocean Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32202-3083 (904) 359-6880  
 242 Senate Office Building, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (904) 487-5024

TONI JENNINGS  
President

ROBERTO CASAS  
President Pro Tempore

3121 Overhill Drive  
Jacksonville, FL. 32277  
May 28, 1997

Director of the Division of Records and Reporting  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shuford Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL. 32399-0850

RE: United Water Florida, Rate Increase  
Docket No. 960451 - WS

Dear Sir;

This letter is to advise you of my objection to the Water & Sewer Rate Increase you have approved for United Water Florida, effective May 19, 1997.

Each Quarter since United Water Florida took over service from Suburban Utilities, they have announced and made effective "Interim Rate Increases" which they claim were allowed by law. Since Jan. 1994 these Increases have totaled an accumulated Increase of over 10%. NOW they have gotten approval for ANOTHER INCREASE of OVER 9% OVER INTERIM RATES.

I could never understand why United Water was hired to service only parts of Duval County, since they are an out-of-state Corporation and in business for one reason....TO MAKE A PROFIT for their shareholders. How they could be allowed to Increase Rates is a mystery....when the Mayor of Jacksonville has advised those citizens serviced by Jacksonville Water, there would be NO RATE INCREASE ON WATER FOR 5 YEARS.

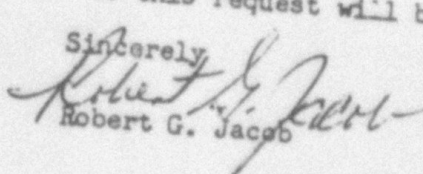
I can only assume the residents of Arlington and other areas serviced by United Water will be expected to pay for the Water & Sewer Service to the fast growing and newly developed areas in East & South Duval County. This is sure to save the City of Jacksonville a lot of money, so they will not have to increase Rates to those citizens living North & West of the ST. Johns River.

My request to you is that you EQUALIZE RATES between City of Jacksonville Water & Sewer and United Water Florida, so that ALL CITIZENS of Jacksonville are treated fairly and have the SAME Water & Sewer Rates. The City of Jacksonville seems to have plenty of money to attract Pro-Football, build a new stadium, River Walk, Skyway Rail (joke) New Conference Hotel, etc, etc. The City of Jax should support the need for Water & Sewage service to the New & Old Residents of East/South Duval, and NOT expect older residents in this area to pay this expense. (I have lived in my present home for 32 years.) Since Jan. 1996 I have paid \$433.90 in Sewer Base & Sewer Quantity Charges !!

Your consideration of and response to this request will be greatly appreciated.

cc: Hon. Betty Holzendorf ✓  
Hon. Jim King  
Hon. John Crecem beni  
James L. Ade, PA

Sincerely,

  
Robert G. Jacob

Notice to Customers of United Water Florida Inc.  
of Approval of Final Rates by the Florida  
Public Service Commission  
Docket No. 960451-WS  
Dated: May 23, 1997

Dear Customer:

On July 30, 1996, United Water Florida Inc. ("United Water Florida") filed an application with the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") for an increase in its water and wastewater rates in Duval, Nassau and St. Johns Counties, Florida. Although United Water Florida has used annual price indexes and pass through adjustments to offset some of its increases in expenses, United Water Florida's last general rate case was in 1982 and used a 1980 test year. The rate increases are primarily due to capital investments that are being required to meet more stringent environmental regulations, rehabilitation of United Water Florida's water distribution and wastewater collection systems, major enhancements to United Water Florida's water and wastewater treatment processes, and information technology initiatives. On October 29, 1996, the Commission approved an interim rate increase which became effective on November 15, 1996. The Commission conducted a hearing on the application the week of January 26, 1997, in Jacksonville, Florida. At its May 6, 1997, Agenda Conference, the Commission approved final rates for United Water Florida and also determined that no refunds were due under the interim rates.

The final rates will become effective for service rendered on or after May 19, 1997. A schedule showing United Water Florida's rates prior to the rate case, the Commission's approved interim rates, United Water Florida's requested final rates, and the Commission's approved final rates is set forth on the reverse side of this notice. Please note that the Commission has lowered the wastewater gallonage cap on residential wastewater service from 30,000 gallons or 4,000 cubic feet of water per quarter to 27,000 gallons or 3,600 cubic feet of water per quarter.

United Water Florida's customer service hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please call United Water Florida at (904) 725-2865 or write United Water Florida at 1400 Millcoe Road, Jacksonville, Florida 32239.

Written customer comments concerning United Water Florida's water and wastewater utility service and United Water Florida's request for a rate increase also may be addressed to the Director of the Division of Records and Reporting, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, with a courtesy copy to James L. Ade, Attorney, Martin, Ade, Birchfield & Mickler, 3000 Independent Square, Jacksonville, Florida 32202. All comments should include references to Commission Docket No. 960451-WS, which has been assigned to this case. You may also call the Commission's Division of Consumer Affairs at the following toll-free number: 1-800-342-3552.

This notice was approved by the Staff of the Commission.

### WATER SERVICE RATES Residential Service (Quarterly Rates)

Meter Size	Prior Rates Base Facility Charges	Commission Approved Interim Rates Base Facility Charges	Utility Proposed Final Rates Base Facility Charges	Commission Approved Final Rates Base Facility Charges
5/8"	\$ 14.62	\$ 15.93	\$ 20.52	\$ 17.38
3/4"	\$ 20.50	\$ 22.33	\$ 28.78	\$ 25.15
1"	\$ 32.22	\$ 35.10	\$ 45.23	\$ 44.61
1 1/2"	\$ 73.26	\$ 79.81	\$ 102.85	\$ 100.37
2"	\$ 143.68	\$ 156.51	\$ 201.71	\$ 178.43
Gallage Charge per 1 000 Gallons	\$ 1.03	\$ 1.11	\$ 1.45	\$ 1.35
per 100 cubic feet	\$ 0.77	\$ 0.83	\$ 1.08	\$ 1.01

### General Service (Monthly Rates)

Meter Size	Prior Rates Base Facility Charges	Commission Approved Interim Rates Base Facility Charges	Utility Proposed Final Rates Base Facility Charges	Commission Approved Final Rates Base Facility Charges
5/8"	\$ 6.79	\$ 7.40	\$ 9.53	\$ 8.08
3/4"	\$ 8.75	\$ 9.53	\$ 13.79	\$ 11.68
1"	\$ 12.65	\$ 13.78	\$ 24.46	\$ 20.72
1 1/2"	\$ 28.36	\$ 28.71	\$ 55.03	\$ 48.63
2"	\$ 49.82	\$ 54.27	\$ 97.88	\$ 82.89
3"	\$ 131.93	\$ 143.72	\$ 220.19	\$ 186.56
4"	\$ 339.26	\$ 369.55	\$ 391.35	\$ 331.58
6"	\$ 382.27	\$ 416.40	\$ 880.75	\$ 746.15
8"	\$ 4,258.31	\$ 4,638.54	\$ 1,565.40	\$ 1,326.20
10"	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$ 2,072.88
12"	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$ 2,984.58
Gallage Charge per 1 000 Gallons	\$ 1.03	\$ 1.11	\$ 1.45	\$ 1.35
per 100 cubic feet	\$ 0.77	\$ 0.83	\$ 1.08	\$ 1.01

### Private Fire Protection (Monthly Rates)

Size of Service Connection	Prior Rates Monthly Rate Per Connection	Commission Approved Proposed Interim Rates Monthly Rate Per Connection	Utility Proposed Final Rates Monthly Rate Per Connection	Commission Approved Final Rates Monthly Rate Per Connection
2"	\$ 13.31	\$ 14.50	\$ 6.87	\$ 8.91
3"	\$ 23.74	\$ 25.86	\$ 15.45	\$ 15.85
4"	\$ 35.42	\$ 38.58	\$ 27.47	\$ 27.83
6"	\$ 67.99	\$ 74.06	\$ 61.84	\$ 62.18
8"	\$ 107.09	\$ 116.65	\$ 109.91	\$ 110.52
10"	\$ 152.64	\$ 166.27	\$ 171.79	\$ 172.74
12"	\$ 217.57	\$ 236.99	\$ 247.35	\$ 248.72

### WASTEWATER SERVICE RATES Residential Service (Quarterly Rates)

Meter Size	Prior Rates Base Facility Charges	Commission Approved Proposed Interim Rates Base Facility Charges	Utility Proposed Final Rates Base Facility Charges	Commission Approved Final Rates Base Facility Charges
5/8"	\$ 27.57	\$ 27.75	\$ 36.62	\$ 33.98
3/4"	\$ 27.57	\$ 27.75	\$ 36.62	\$ 33.98
1"	\$ 27.57	\$ 27.75	\$ 36.62	\$ 33.98
1 1/2"	\$ 27.57	\$ 27.75	\$ 36.62	\$ 33.98
Unmetered account (No quantity charge)	\$ 88.07	\$ 88.64	\$ 116.99	\$ 108.55
Quantity Charge per 1 000 gallons	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.02	\$ 3.98	\$ 3.34
per 100 cubic feet	\$ 2.24	\$ 2.26	\$ 2.98	\$ 2.50
Previous Maximum gallage charge 30 000 gallons of water or 4 000 cubic feet of water per quarter				(New Maximum gallage charge - 27 000 gallons of water or 3 600 cubic feet of water per quarter)

### General Service - Standard (Monthly Rates)

Meter Size	Prior Rates Base Facility Charges	Commission Approved Proposed Interim Rates Base Facility Charges	Utility Proposed Final Rates Base Facility Charges	Commission Approved Final Rates Base Facility Charges
5/8"	\$ 10.48	\$ 10.55	\$ 13.92	\$ 12.91
3/4"	\$ 14.50	\$ 14.59	\$ 20.14	\$ 18.68
1"	\$ 23.29	\$ 23.44	\$ 35.72	\$ 33.14
1 1/2"	\$ 53.19	\$ 53.54	\$ 80.38	\$ 74.56
2"	\$ 104.45	\$ 105.14	\$ 142.89	\$ 132.55
3"	\$ 283.94	\$ 285.80	\$ 321.58	\$ 298.32
4"	\$ 736.83	\$ 741.66	\$ 571.54	\$ 530.20
6"	\$ 830.84	\$ 836.28	\$ 1,286.16	\$ 1,193.12
8"	\$ 9,299.45	\$ 9,360.35	\$ 2,286.01	\$ 2,128.65
Unmetered Accounts (No quantity charges)	\$ 30.61	\$ 30.81	\$ 40.25	\$ 37.73
Quantity Charge per 1 000 Gallons of water	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.02	\$ 3.98	\$ 4.01
per 100 cubic feet of water	\$ 2.24	\$ 2.26	\$ 2.98	\$ 3.00

### General Service - Jacksonville University (Monthly)

Meter Size	Prior Rates Base Facility Charges	Commission Approved Proposed Interim Rates Base Facility Charges	Utility Proposed Final Rates Base Facility Charges	Commission Approved Final Rates Base Facility Charges
3"	\$ 283.94	\$ 285.80	\$ 377.17	\$ 298.32
4"	\$ 736.83	\$ 741.66	\$ 978.76	\$ 530.20
6"	\$ 830.84	\$ 836.28	\$ 1,103.64	\$ 1,193.12
Quantity Charge per 1 000 Gallons of wastewater flows	\$ 3.73	\$ 3.75	\$ 4.95	\$ 4.13
per 100 cubic feet of wastewater flows	\$ 2.80	\$ 2.82	\$ 3.72	\$ 3.09

STATE OF FLORIDA



**Public Service Commission**

**RECEIVED**

JUL 16 1997

FPSC - Records/Reporting

July 15, 1997

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Blanca Bayo  
Director of Records and Reporting

FROM: Chairman Julia Johnson *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: Correspondence received re Docket No. 960451-WS

Please find attached a copy of a letter dated July 2, 1997, from Senator Betty S. Holzendorf. Please place this memorandum and attachments on the record of the above-referenced proceeding. Also, please give notice of this communication to all parties to the docket, and inform them that they have 10 days from receipt of the notice to file a response.

JLJ:ssf

Attachments:

---

-----  
From: Carol Purvis Confirm receipt  
To: Curtis Williams, Billy Stiles, Braulio Baez, Bill Berg, Brenda Ferris  
Subject: Ex Parte  
-----

====NOTE====  
BCC: Robby Cunningham

.....  
Chairman Johnson has reported receiving a letter from Senator Betty S. Holzendorf dated July 2, 1997 which an attached letter from Mr. Robert G. Jacob dated May 28, 1997, concerning Docket No. 960451-WS - United Water Florida, Inc. We are preparing to distribute this letter to the parties to this docket. Would you please let me know if your Commissioner also received this letter from Senator Holzendorf.  
-----

-----  
From: Carol Purvis  
To: Bill Berg, Billy Stiles, Braulio Baez, Brenda Ferris, Curtis Williams  
Subject: fwd: Ex Parte  
-----

====NOTE====7/16/97==4:41pm====  
Chairman Johnson has reported receiving a letter from Senator Betty S. Holzendorf dated July 2, 1997 which an attached letter from Mr. Robert G. Jacob dated May 28, 1997, concerning Docket No. 960451-WS - United Water Florida, Inc. We are preparing to distribute this letter to the parties to this docket. Would you please let me know if your Commissioner also received this letter from Senator Holzendorf.

-----  
Fwd-by:=Braulio=Baez==7/16/97==4:50pm====  
Fwd to: Carol Purvis  
.....  
Our office has not received that letter.  
-----



-----  
From: Carol Purvis  
To: Bill Berg, Billy Stiles, Braulio Baez, Brenda Ferris, Curtis Williams  
Subject: fwd: Ex Parte  
-----

====NOTE=====7/16/97==4:41pm=====

Chairman Johnson has reported receiving a letter from Senator Betty S. Holzendorf dated July 2, 1997 which an attached letter from Mr. Robert G. Jacob dated May 28, 1997, concerning Docket No. 960451-WS - United Water Florida, Inc. We are preparing to distribute this letter to the parties to this docket. Would you please let me know if your Commissioner also received this letter from Senator Holzendorf.

Fwd-by:=Bill=Berg=====7/17/97==8:59am=====

Fwd to: Carol Purvis

.....

Commissioner Deason has not received a copy of the aforementioned letters.

-----

EXTERNAL CONTACT TRACKING ADD FORM

CONTACT NO: 00786      CHAIRMAN'S NO: 00211      DATE OF CONTACT: 07/10/1997      DUE DATE: 07/21/1997

CONTACT TYPE: LETTER      NATURE OF CONTACT: CONSUMER CONCERN

ENTERED BY: VERONICA WASHINGTON      RECEIVED BY: JOHNSON      REFERRED BY:

LAST NAME	FIRST	MI
JACOB	ROBERT	MR. G
MAILING ADDRESS	CITY	STATE
3121 OVERHILL DRIVE	JACKSONVILLE	FL
	ZIP: 32277	

WORK PHONE:      HOME PHONE:      FAX:

NAME OF ORGANIZATION:

INTERNET/E-MAIL:

COMPANY NAME: UNITED WATER FLORIDA INC.

COMPANY CODE: WS127

ACCT NO:

TYPE: WS      SUBJECT: RATE INCREASE

NOTES: PLEASE PREPARE A RESPONSE WITHIN 3 WORKING DAYS

ASSIGNED TO: MARSHALL WILLIS

<u>ACTION TAKEN</u>	<u>ACTION DATE</u>

DIVISION ASSIGNED: WAW

RESPONSE:      RESPONSE DATE:

DATE CLOSED:

RESPONSE INSTRUCTIONS

- PREPARE LETTER FOR THE CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE
- RESPOND TO LETTER AND CC: CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE
- CONTACT CURTIS WILLIAMS BEFORE ACTING ON THIS COMPLAINT
- NO RESPONSE NECESSARY